

Date: Thu, 8 Sep 94 04:30:06 PDT
From: Info-Hams Mailing List and Newsgroup <info-hams@ucsd.edu>
Errors-To: Info-Hams-Errors@UCSD.Edu
Reply-To: Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu
Precedence: Bulk
Subject: Info-Hams Digest V94 #1004
To: Info-Hams

Info-Hams Digest Thu, 8 Sep 94 Volume 94 : Issue 1004

Today's Topics:

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[Announcement] VHF QSO Party, Pleeeease!!!
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Dalton, GA, Swapfest Directions
Is FM 'real' amateur radio?
Need comments on 2 Ham books @ Radio Shack
Scout Jamboral Radio Station

Send Replies or notes for publication to: <Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu>
Send subscription requests to: <Info-Hams-REQUEST@UCSD.Edu>
Problems you can't solve otherwise to brian@ucsd.edu.

Archives of past issues of the Info-Hams Digest are available
(by FTP only) from UCSD.Edu in directory "mailarchives/info-hams".

We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text
herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official
policies or positions of any party. Your mileage may vary. So there.

Date: Wed, 7 Sep 1994 13:54:51 GMT
From: psinntp!bnlux1.bnl.gov!natoli@uunet.uu.net
Subject: 2m/440 repeaters in the I-95 corridor
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

We are driving down to Hilton Head SC Friday night and would
like to know if there are any repeaters that welcome transient
traffic along the way and are reachable with only 5 watts.

Tony (N2ZCZ) & Karen (N2ZDA) Natoli (natoli@bnlux1.bnl.gov)

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Date: Wed, 7 Sep 1994 13:10:49 GMT
From: psinntp!darkstar!elt@uunet.uu.net
Subject: [Announcement] VHF QSO Party, Pleeeease!!!
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I got bit by VHF contesting early in ham life and I love it! The January contest seems the best attended (all except for 7-land ;-) it must be too cold there in January.) In the June and September contests, the big guns haul equipment up to mountain tops and rain RF fire into the skys but it seems that activity drops off dramatically. January is a club competition, so a lot of home stations participate, but not nearly so many in June and next to nothing in September.

Please! Get on everything you have from 6 meters on up and look for lots of contacts starting this Saturday afternoon (Sept 10, 1800Z) and through Sunday evening. Unless you live in a tin shack, you will hear stations. Don't worry if you don't know how the contest works. The very first station you talk to will be so rabidly hungry for your contact point that he or she will explain it all to you.

Make friends, help your local contestants, get on all the 6 meter and up simplex frequencies (except 146.520) and call CQ!

Please!!!

- Ed. (aa2mz)

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Ed Taychert | No plants or animals were killed to create this message.
elt@irony.com | It is composed entirely of recycled computer bits.

Date: 8 Sep 1994 01:36:11 GMT
From: spool.mu.edu!news.nd.edu!mac16@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Callsign Servers
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Will there be an update to the callsign servers anytime soon, or are they only updated on a yearly basis? I believe, for example, that the last update to callsign.cs.buffalo.edu 2000 occurred in January. I'm not bitching, mind you--I simply wondered when to expect new info.

Charles
N9SQE

Date: Wed, 7 Sep 1994 14:29:15 GMT
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!library.ucla.edu!agate!howland.reston.ans.net!
europa.eng.gtefsd.com!newsxfer.itd.umich.edu!ncar!csn!jwdxt@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: Colorado Connection Question
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

A friend of mine is traveling to SW Colorado this week and I live in Longmont. We wanted to try to stay in touch via Colorado Connection, where possible. His final destination is Montrose, and it looks like there are CoConn repeaters in Salida and Leadville that could be used. I have a note scribbled in my repeater directory that 147.285 in Grand Junction may also be a CoConn repeater if he can hit it from Montrose.

My question is this: Are all CoConn repeaters linked all the time or is there some kind of schedule? Also, are there any CoConn repeaters closer to Montrose that we might use? There is an open repeater listed in the directory for Montrose that is supposed to be linked but to what, I don't know.

Thanks in advance,
Jim Deeming
KB0MED

Date: 7 Sep 1994 14:44:45 GMT
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!usc!nic-nac.CSU.net!charnel.ecst.csuchico.edu!
yeshua.marcam.com!wrdis02.robins.af.mil!lakeith@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: Dalton, GA, Swapfest Directions
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I understand that there is a swapfest at Praters Mill in Dalton, GA, this Saturday.

Does anyone have directions, talk-in frequency, or any other info?

tnx,

Larry, KQ4BY

Date: Wed, 7 Sep 1994 12:50:48 GMT
From: psinntp!darkstar!elt@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Is FM 'real' amateur radio?
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <34ct3p\$pv3@news.cc.oberlin.edu> pruth@ocvaxa.cc.oberlin.edu writes:
>A philosophic question: Is FM amateur radio, particularly

>through repeaters, too 'easy' to be considered genuine
>amateur radio? Is it necessary for a QSO to be DX to be
>a genuine QSO? And, ARRL and FCC pronouncements aside,
>what is the whole objective of getting into amateur radio?
>I would like to hear from the Prosecution as well as from
>the Defense re FM hamming, too. Thank you for your time
>and thoughts. --Bill Ruth, Oberlin, Ohio (waiting for
>license to arrive and contemplating big ham questions
>in the meanwhile...) Net posts rather than, or in addition
>to, personal replies might help clear the air (or add
>more fuel to the flames!)

Such provocation and you haven't even called your first CQ?

Using 2 meter FM simplex, I've talked from Rochester, NY to Getysburg, PA (over 200 miles) and to Thunder Bay, Ontario (over 500 miles.) On 446 Mhz, I've worked an HT 150 miles away that was running 1/2 a watt. All quite thrilling experiences. You can do 'DX' with FM and with FM repeaters. I'm not sure how close Oberlin is to the lake, but the summer tropo season is a blast for everyone all over the Great Lakes.

Hams involved in public service often use FM simplex, but if the event they are working on is over a wide area, they will use a repeater.

Swap nets, bulletins, and other services provided on repeaters are 'real' amateur radio. If your car breaks down and you don't have a cell phone, hope that your local repeater has an autopatch or start hitchhiking.

Have fun, keep an open mind ...

- Ed. (aa2mz)

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Ed Taychert | No plants or animals were killed to create this message.
elt@irony.com | It is composed entirely of recycled computer bits.

Date: 7 Sep 1994 15:07:00 GMT

From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!swrinde!hopper.acm.org!ACM.ORG!SMITHSON@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: Need comments on 2 Ham books @ Radio Shack
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <34iob1\$9dk@news.csus.edu>, danb@acme.csusb.edu (Dan Brown) writes:
>Dinos Kouroushiaklis (dinos@sylvester.cc.utexas.edu) wrote:
>: I am new to Ham Radio and am unsure where to start from. I found in
>: Radio Shack 2 books "Now you are talking" and "No Code Plus".

>: I know that the 2nd has the test pool, but I was told that I need the
>: first one to build some background knowledge in Ham Radio and electronics.

I studied from the previous rev of "Now you're Talking" two years ago and passed my test easily. It did a great job of introducing the theory, etc. I'm sure the current edition will be the same.

Good luck!

-Brian n8wrl

Date: 7 Sep 1994 15:51:25 GMT
From: es.com!orca!bmadsen@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Scout Jamboral Radio Station
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I received some more information regarding the Amateur Radio Balloon Launch that is to take place at the Utah Heritage Jamboral on Sept. 16-17th, hosted by the Great Salt Lake Council. I volunteered to forward this information to this group, and would encourage you to forward it to anyone else that might be interested. Tune in!

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Bruce Madsen
Evans & Sutherland
bmadsen@dsd.es.com

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"You don't raise heroes; you
raise sons. And if you treat
them like sons they'll turn out
to be heroes, even if it's just
in your eyes"

"I used to be a bear..."
WE2-590-4-92

- W. Schirra

Currently serving as Charted Organization Representative

UTAH BALLOON GROUP LAUNCH

OF SUPERBALL 9-94

The Utah Balloon Group, a cooperative group from Utah State University, Logan Utah, members of the amateur radio community, and the Rock Mountain NASA Space Grant Consortium have planned a launch for September. This launch will use a small zero pressure "sounder" balloon designed for short duration flights.

The flight scheduled will use a small, 26 ft diameter, 19,000 cubic foot balloon, and a multitude of payloads with a Saturday, September 17, launch. The launch is in conjunction with the Boy Scouts of America, Great Salt Lake Council "Jamboral" near Park City, Utah. This is a large scout encampment with over 13,000 in attendance. We expect the launch to take place around 8:30 AM (14:30 UTC) from the Jamboral.

We have received permission from the National Council of the Boy Scouts of America call sign trustee to use its call K2BSA. The call sign on all transmissions will be K2BSA/7.

Payloads planned for the September 17th flight are as follows: FAA Aircraft Transponder; a primary Ham payload consisting of a 5 Channel GPS Receiver, VHF Transmitter on 146.54 MHz, and an ATV transmitter on 434.00 MHz (CABLE channel 59). The telemetry from the primary payload will be sent in synthesized voice on the VHF frequency and on the voice sideband of the ATV. The ATV will be transmitting images from a black & white camera directed to the ground at a 30 degree angle off the horizon. This primary Ham payload is essentially the same payload, used for SuperBall 5-94, that was successfully launched on May 21 of this year from the Utah Ham Fest in Ogden. That payload was recovered the next day near St Charles, Idaho.

In addition to the refurbished Superball 5-94 payload the group also plans to test fly, as a secondary payload, part of the electronics that were developed this summer for a long duration flight. This secondary payload was designed to operate for extended periods from a solar array at very low power levels with a very limited power budget.

The RF deck for this secondary payload consists of the following: 2 meter FM transmitter on 145.810 MHz. This will run FM, CW, and direct FSK FEC G3PLX/ASCII AMTOR using a 1 KHz shift of the RF carrier. This will require an ALL MODE receiver set to demodulate the tones using the settings for 100 Baud FEC Amtor with a programmable multi-mode TNC with the Bell 202, 1 KHz shift selected (same filters as used for 1200 Baud VHF Packet). The CW is On/Off keying. The output power appears to be in the region of 150-200 milliwatts.

10 meters and 15 meters: 29.162 and 21.407 MHz respectively. These run Double Sideband, Suppressed carrier for the voice (during the times that the 2 meter transmitter runs FM). There will also be CW (on/off keying) and FSK FEC AMTOR (200 Hz shift - precisely 1/5th that on 2 meters.) The output power level is

on the order of 20 milliwatts or so PEP.

Since this flight will only be a few hours duration the the RF and logic decks will be powered by the on board lithium packs. It is worth mentioning that the transmitter is not particularly temperature stable. That is one of the prices of simplicity and low-power consumption.

The Double Sideband was chosen on HF since it has a tremendous power advantage (at least an order of magnitude... probably more under "real-world" conditions) over the FM. It is also less-likely to annoy as many people.

The Aircraft Transponder is being included since the payload will exceed 4 kg, the "light balloon" limit, and our experience in the past has proven the value of FAA tracking. The positional information from the GPS receiver along with battery voltage and temperature information will be telemetered on the ATV audio sideband, both VHF frequencies and both HF frequencies, provided other parts of the payload are finished in time.

We expect to have monitoring equipment at the Jamboral site, including WB4APR's APRS (Automatic Packet Reporting System) software running; ATV monitors; and VHF and HF (operating on 7.155 MHz) communications with the chase teams.

The flight of the balloon will likely take it to the east in its initial ascent phase and continue east as it approaches its float altitude of approximately 100,000 ft. We expect to cut down the payload after about 4 hours flight. Impact will likely be someplace in south west Wyoming or eastern Utah.

Allied with the balloon launch, arrangements have been made to operate K2BSA\7 on HF SSB, CW, and AMTOR from this site as a special event station. There will be a low power AM commercial broadcast station, KBSA, with scouts acting as reporters and operators.

If you would like to hear more about our projects, you can be placed on our "balloons" InterNet mailing list. Please send your request to me at KI7OM@uugate.aim.utah.edu. Alternatively you can telnet into uugate and read items in the "balloons" area. If you live in our area and are interested in participating either in payload work or in the launch and chase, or if you are interested in actively tracking and copying telemetry please let me know.

End of Info-Hams Digest V94 #1004
